

INFORMATION REPORT INFORMATION REPORT

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

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COUNTRY	USSR (Latvian SSR)	REPORT	
SUBJECT	Commodity Prices in Riga	DATE DISTR.	23 August 1955
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This is UNEVALUATED Information

SOURCE EVALUATIONS ARE DEFINITIVE. APPRAISAL OF CONTENT IS TENTATIVE.

1. Following are some commodity prices source observed in the Riga area up to April 1955:

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<u>Item</u>	<u>Unit</u>	<u>Cost in Rubles</u>	<u>Remarks</u>
Ladies' shoes	1 pair	300-600	
Ladies' shoes	1 pair	400-600	Made in Czechoslovakia
Ladies' costume shoes	1 pair	800	Made illegally by various shoemakers.
Small VEF radio	1	300	
Large VEF radio	1	600	
Bread	kg	1.40	In State stores
Bread	kg	5-6	On open market
Milk	liter	2.5	In State stores
Milk	liter	5-6	On open market
Milk	liter	8	On holidays (sic)
Butter	kg	27.5	In State stores
Butter	kg	50-60	On open market
Horse meat	kg	6	In State stores. Not sold anymore.
Horse meat	kg	16	On open market.

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(Note: Washington distribution indicated by "X"; Field distribution by "#")

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<u>Item</u>	<u>Unit</u>	<u>Cost in Rubles</u>	<u>Remarks</u>
Liver bologna	kg	-	In State stores. Not available anymore.
Liver bologna	kg	3.75	On open market
Cheese	kg	24-25	In State stores.
Woman's suit, cheap burlap material	1	350	
Woman's suit, made of blue Komminar material	1	600-1,000	These suits arrive in the stores once or twice a month and are in great demand because they are made of relatively good material.
Potatoes	kg	.50	In State stores
Potatoes	kg	3.5 in fall 4 in winter	On open market

2. Much produce, ie., eggs, bacon, meat, vegetables, etc., is brought to the markets in Riga by Lithuanian farmers from Lithuania. In turn, they buy cheap women's summer shoes, at 13 rubles a pair in the State-owned *Armijas Ekonomiskais Veikals* in Riga, and flour, which they take back with them to Lithuania.
3. Except for Monday, all stores in Riga are open everyday, including Sunday, from 1100 to 2000 hours. Factories and offices are closed on Sundays. If a State holiday falls during the week, offices and factories are required to work on the preceeding Sunday (two Sundays if it is a two-day holiday) to make up for the time lost.

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